

(19) World Intellectual Property  
Organization  
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date  
12 May 2005 (12.05.2005)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
**WO 2005/042832 A1**

(51) International Patent Classification<sup>7</sup>: **D21C 9/10,**  
D21D 5/00

(21) International Application Number:  
PCT/CA2004/001888

(22) International Filing Date: 28 October 2004 (28.10.2004)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:  
2,447,098 28 October 2003 (28.10.2003) CA

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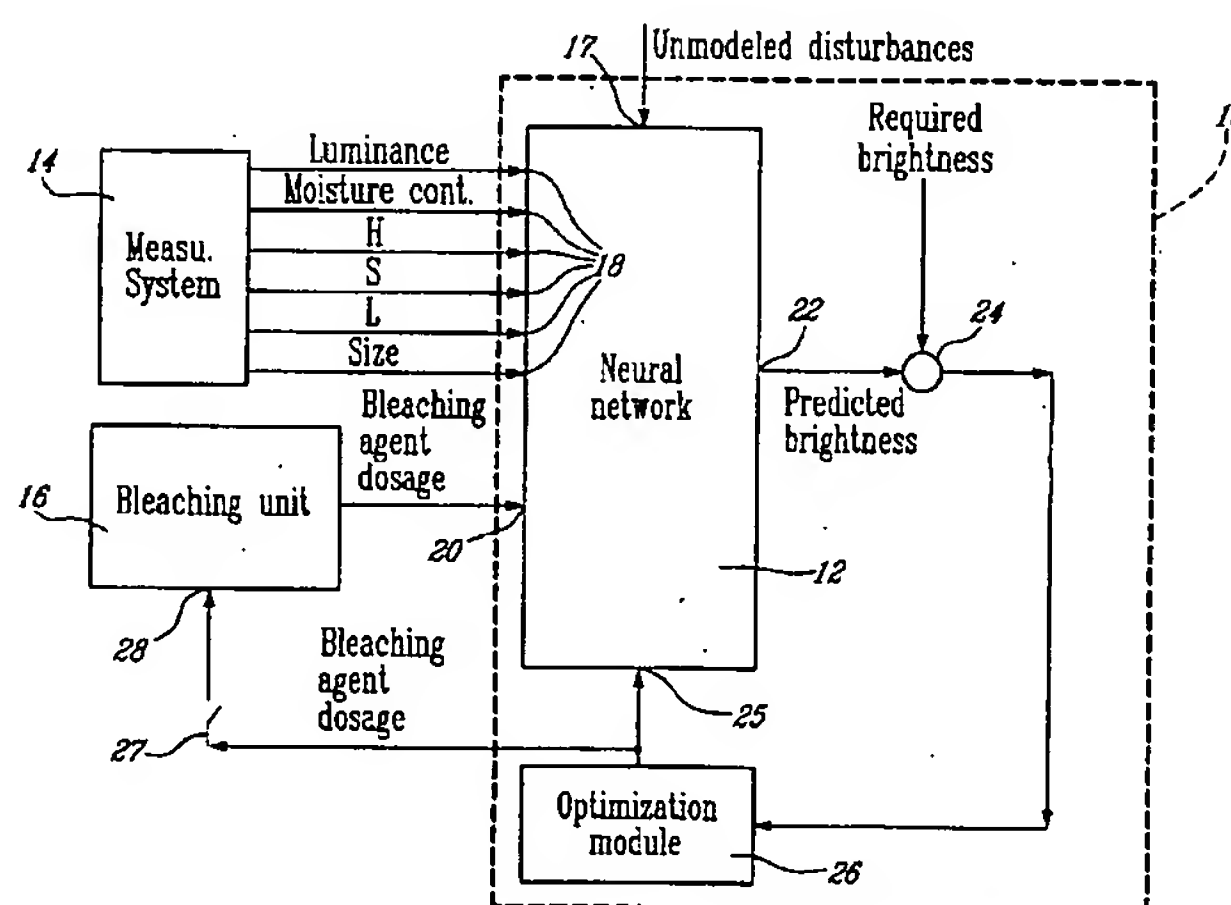
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(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every  
kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM,  
AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN,  
CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI,  
GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE,  
KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD,  
MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG,  
PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM,  
TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM,  
ZW.

(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every  
kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH,  
GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM,

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ESTIMATING AN OPTIMAL DOSAGE OF BLEACHING AGENT TO BE USED  
IN A PROCESS FOR PRODUCING PULP



(57) Abstract: A method and an apparatus for estimating an optimal dosage of bleaching agent to be used in a process for producing pulp of a required brightness value involve a set of wood chip properties characterizing the wood chips as estimated by a measurement system. Corresponding wood chip properties data are fed at the inputs of a predictive model (10) including a neural network (12), as well as an initial dosage value of the bleaching agent. The predictive model (10) generates a predicted brightness value of pulp to produce from the inspected wood chips, to estimate the optimal bleaching agent dosage for which the predicted brightness value substantially reaches the required brightness value. A method and system for controlling the bleaching of pulp are respectively based on the same estimation method and apparatus.



ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM),  
European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI,  
FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI,  
SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ,  
GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

**Declaration under Rule 4.17:**

— of inventorship (Rule 4.17(iv)) for US only

**Published:**

- with international search report
- with amended claims

*For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.*